

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As stated above, Applicant elects Group I, claims 1 to 10, for further prosecution, and respectfully traverses the requirement for restriction for the following reasons:

It is believed that the present invention is directed to a unitary inventive concept, namely, spot welding tongs for robotic applications in resistance welding or workpieces. Moreover, it is believed that any search for the species embodied in Group I and claims 1 to 10 would necessarily include a search for the species embodied in Group II, claims 11-18. Thus, a simultaneous search for all of the species is believed not to constitute an unreasonable search for the Patent Examiner.

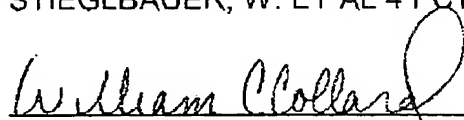
In addition, it is believed that the objectives of streamlined examination and compact prosecution would be promoted if a search were conducted simultaneously for both of the groups. Also, the necessity of filing multiple patent applications for the same invention does not serve to promote the public interest. This is because of the extra expense that is involved, in filing fees and examination costs, as well as the burden upon the public due to the necessity of searching through a multiplicity of patent files in order to find the complete range of subject matter claimed in several different patents that could otherwise be found in one issued patent only.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional patent application for the non-elected claims.

For all these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the Requirement for Restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 be withdrawn. An action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully requested.

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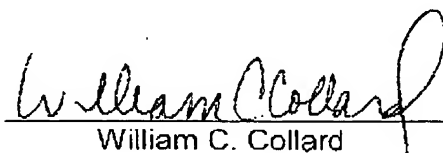
Respectfully submitted,
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FACSIMILE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission to the U.S.P.T.O. to Patent Examiner Brian W. Jennison at Group No. 4184, to 1-571-273-8300 on _____.


William C. Collard

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